

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were pending in the application when the Office Action was mailed March 17, 2008. Claims 1-19 were rejected. Applicants have amended claims 8-13, 18 and 19. Applicants have not added any claims. Accordingly, claims 1-19 remain pending.

Claims 8-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over Iverson, Lee, "NODAL: A Filesystem for Ubiquitous Collaboration," Whitepaper, SRI International, September 20, 2001. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants' representative, Joe Brennan, thanks the Examiner for the telephonic interview completed on July 9, 2008. During that telephonic interview, the parties discussed proposed amendments to claims 8, 10 and 13 to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Should the Examiner need further information relating to the telephonic interview, he is asked to contact the undersigned.

Although applicants disagree with the rejections of claims 8-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, applicants have nevertheless amended claims 8-13, 18 and 19. For example, applicants have amended claim 8 to recite a "computer-readable storage medium" and claims 10 and 13 to recite "a processor" and "a memory coupled to the processor." During the telephonic interview, it appeared that the Examiner viewed favorably these amendments and indicated that these amendments would likely be entered. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendments to claims 8-13, 18 and 19 and withdraw the rejections of claims 8-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

With regard to the rejections of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), applicants are filing a Notice of Appeal concurrently with this paper. Applicants explicitly reserve the right to address these rejections in a subsequent Appeal Brief.

If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-6478.

Dated: 7-17-08

Respectfully submitted,

By Joe Brennan

Joseph F. Brennan

Registration No.: 62,403

PERKINS COIE LLP

P.O. Box 1247

Seattle, Washington 98111-1247

(206) 359-6065

(206) 359-4970 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant